



EPA Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot

Selma, AL

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5105)

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

EPA's Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, and safely clean up brownfields to promote their sustainable reuse. Brownfields are abandoned, idled, or under-used industrial and commercial facilities where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination. EPA is funding: assessment demonstration pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years, with additional funding provided for greenspace) to test assessment models and facilitate coordinated assessment and cleanup efforts at the federal, state, tribal, and local levels; and job training pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years) to provide training for residents of communities affected by brownfields to facilitate cleanup of brownfields sites and prepare trainees for future employment in the environmental field; and, cleanup revolving loan fund program (each funded up to \$1,000,000 over five years) to provide financial assistance for the environmental cleanup of brownfields. These pilot programs are intended to provide EPA, states, tribes, municipalities, and communities with useful information and strategies as they continue to seek new methods to promote a unified approach to site assessment, environmental cleanup, and redevelopment.

BACKGROUND

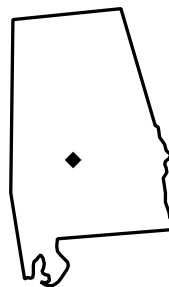
EPA has selected the City of Selma for a Brownfields Assessment Pilot. Selma (population 46,220) is located in central Alabama, 80 miles south of Birmingham. The city has suffered from a continuous decline in manufacturing and an increase in blight for over 30 years. The closing of manufacturing plants has most significantly affected the city's poorer residents. Fifty-one percent of city residents fall within the low-to moderate-income range, and unemployment in the city is 10 percent.

The City of Selma will focus its brownfields redevelopment efforts on three city-owned sites identified by the community-based Selma Advisory Board during preliminary environmental audits. The three priority areas are the 50-acre All-Lock Plant, the Waterfront district, and the half-acre Selma East Area Pond. A key component of the Pilot will be to involve the city's youth in volunteer projects.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Pilot are to continue efforts to unite and revitalize the community, redevelop

PILOT SNAPSHOT



Selma, Alabama

Date of Announcement:
April 2001

Amount: \$200,000

Profile: The Pilot will target three key city-owned properties—the 50-acre All-Lock Plant, the Waterfront district, and the Selma East Area Pond—for assessment and redevelopment planning to help reverse the city's 30-year economic decline.

Contacts:

City of Selma
(334) 872-2100

Regional Brownfields Team
U.S. EPA - Region 4
(404) 562-8661

Visit the EPA Region 4 Brownfields web site at:
<http://www.epa.gov/region4/wastepgs/brownfpgs/bf.htm>

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at:

<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>

properties that are, or perceived to be, contaminated, and preserve the rich historical heritage of the city. The city will encourage community participation on 11 task teams to be established within the Selma Advisory Board, including task teams addressing youth and adult participation, real estate, economic development, community involvement, greenspace, industry, legal affairs, website development, and coordination.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Activities planned as part of this Pilot include:

- Completing environmental audits of city-owned properties;
- Conducting Phase I and Phase II environmental site assessments at three priority sites;
- Incorporating brownfields properties into a database inventory and linking the inventory to a Geographic Information Systems (GIS); and
- Conducting outreach and public participation.

The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.